

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday 4th January 2015

IRTS AGM & Annual Rally

The South Eastern Amateur Radio Group will host the 83rd IRTS Dinner AGM & Radio Rally in Hotel Kilkenny, College Road, Kilkenny on 25th & 26th April 2015. Tickets for the annual dinner which will be held on the Saturday evening at 7:00 pm are now available from John Ronan EI7IG. Tickets are priced at €35 each. Admission to the dinner is by ticket only. www.irts.ie/rallies

IRTS 80metres Contest

IRTS 80metres counties contest took place on Thursday last, New Year's Day. Most counties were on the air for the occasion, but band conditions especially during the first hour were quite difficult, with high noise levels and deep QSB. As can be expected with 80 metres, propagation improved considerably towards evening, encouraging most contestants to stay on the air to the end. The contest has a mixed-mode section but, as usual, much of the activity was in the phone section of the band.

A number of portable stations usually brave the elements for this January contest: this year, the only portable station heard by our correspondents was EI0M/P - Mayo Radio Experimenters Network. No doubt the high winds and heavy rain discouraged others. Logs for this contest should be submitted by 15th January.

Final VHF Squares

Steve EI5DD is requesting that you forward to him the final VHF squares totals to be published in the 2014 VHF Squares Table on the IRTS website. All submissions are welcome.

Please send your data to wrights1/at/eircom/dot/net

Shannon Basin Radio Club

The Shannon Basin Radio Club will be holding its AGM in Hannons Hotel Roscommon on Friday the 16th January at 20:30. As there is a full agenda, all members are requested to attend and anyone wishing to join the club is very welcome.

For further information please see shannonbasinradioclub.com or contact Brian EI8IU on 0861057325.

Fingal Radio Club

Fingal Radio Club EI2FRC and Dermot EI2HD are attempting to put some life back into the 2m band. With this in mind they are asking all amateurs to help them in their quest. To start it off they intend to start a call in or discussion on 2m on 145.525MHz on Wednesday 7th January 2015. They can only do it with the support of all, and they are requesting you to help them on Wednesday 7th /at/ 7pm to get the ball rolling. The idea would be, that in time, all clubs would take a night during the week, and get 2M back where it should be! Time and Time again complaints are heard over the air, about 2M and how it has declined. 2metres is your frequency, so use it, don't abuse it by not working it. Fingal Radio Club are asking you to support them on each Wednesday at 7pm on 2metres and get others to join in, and get their clubs interested.

DX News

Following on from a few days operation as 7P8NH in Lesotho just before Christmas Nick G3RWF will be active this week from Namibia. He will use the callsign V5/G3RWF from 6 – 13 January. QSLs go via his home call.

A group of Japanese operators will activate the callsign XR0YJ on Easter Island from 10 – 16 January. They will be active on 80 – 6m and QSLs will be handled by OQRS.

The callsign 1A0C (One Alpha Zero Charlie) has been on the bands since 28 December. This station is operating from the Sovereign Military Order of Malta premises in Rome. It counts as a separate entity for DXCC and will be on the air until 6 January.

To mark the 90th anniversary of the founding of the South African Radio League the special callsign ZS90SARL will be on the air until the end of April.

Well-known contester and DXer Dan EI3JZ will be active from the Caribbean island of Dominica until April using the callsign J79MM. QSL via EI4JY (EI stations need only send an SAE). Dan looks forward to putting you all in his log.

Items for inclusion in next week's Radio News can be submitted via e-mail to "newsteam /at/ irts / dot / ie" for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Urgent news items for the radio news may be telephoned to the radio

news editor, Aidan, EI7JC on 085 7100511.

Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Thursday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday's bulletin.

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